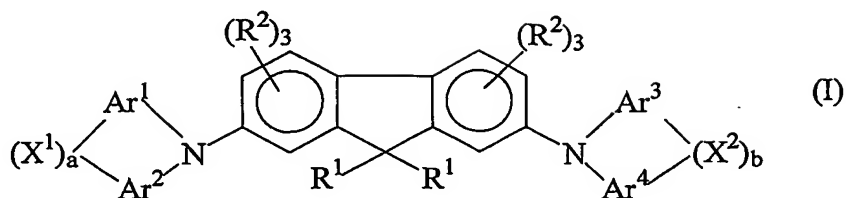


CLAIMS:

1. A compound of the formula:



wherein R^1 is independently in each occurrence i) a C_{1-40} hydrocarbyl group, ii) a C_{1-40} hydrocarbyl group wherein one or more carbons are substituted by one or more heteroatoms selected from S, N, O, P, B or Si atoms, or iii) a halogenated derivative of iii) or iv), with the proviso that in at least one occurrence, R^1 is crosslinkable group;

R^2 is independently in each occurrence hydrogen, halogen, C_{1-20} hydrocarbyl, C_{1-20} hydrocarbyloxy, C_{1-20} thioether, C_{1-20} hydrocarbylcarbonyloxy, di(C_{1-20} hydrocarbyl)amino, or cyano;

Ar^1 , Ar^2 , Ar^3 and Ar^4 are independently in each occurrence C_{6-20} aromatic groups, optionally containing one or more S, N, O, P, B or Si heteroatoms, or a halo-, C_{1-20} hydrocarbyl-, di(C_{1-20} hydrocarbyl)amino-, C_{1-20} hydrocarbyloxy-, tri(C_{1-10} hydrocarbyl)silyl-, or tri(C_{1-10} hydrocarbyl)siloxy- substituted derivative thereof;

a and b independently in each occurrence are 0 or 1; and

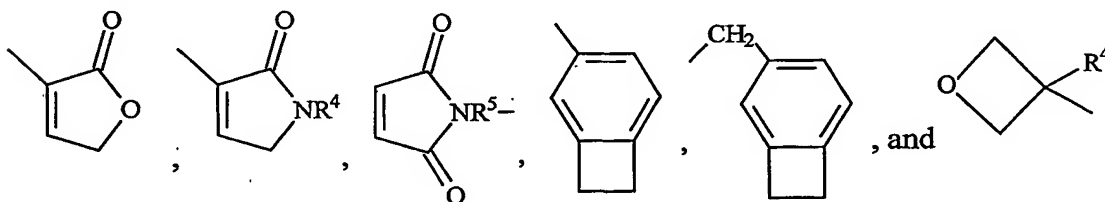
X^1 and X^2 independently in each occurrence are a covalent bond, O, S, SO_2 , CH_2 , $C(R^3)_2$ or NR^3 , wherein R^3 is selected from the group consisting of C_{1-22} alkyl, C_{1-22} cycloalkyl, C_{6-24} aryl, and C_{7-24} aralkyl.

2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R^1 independently each occurrence is selected from the group consisting of C_{1-40} hydrocarbyl, C_{3-40} hydrocarbyl containing one or more S, N, O, P, or Si heteroatoms, and the foregoing C_{1-40} hydrocarbyl or C_{3-40} heteroatom containing groups containing a crosslinkable group, with the proviso that in at least one occurrence, R^1 comprises crosslinkable group.

3. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R^1 in at least one occurrence contains a double bond, a triple bond, a precursor capable of in situ formation of a double bond, or a heterocyclic, addition polymerizable group.

4. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R^1 in at least one occurrence is selected from the group consisting of:

- 5
 $-(R^5)_m-CR^4=CR^4_2$, $-(R^5)_m-C\equiv CR^4$, $-(R^5)_m-O(R^5)_m-CR^4=CR^4_2$, $-(R^5)_m-O(R^5)_m-C\equiv CR^4$,
 $-(R^5)_m-C(O)(R^5)_m-CR^4=CR^4_2$, $-(R^5)_m-C(O)(R^5)_m-C\equiv CR^4$, $-(R^5)_m-OC(O)(R^5)_m-CR^4=CR^4_2$,
 $-(R^5)_m-OC(O)(R^5)_m-C\equiv CR^4$, $-(R^5)_m-COO(R^5)_m-CR^4=CR^4_2$, $-(R^5)_m-COO(R^5)_m-C\equiv CR^4$,
 $-(R^5)_m-O(CO)O(R^5)_m-CR^4=CR^4_2$, $-(R^5)_m-O(CO)O(R^5)_m-C\equiv CR^4$,



where

- 10
 R^4 is hydrogen, halogen, C_{1-20} hydrocarbyl, C_{1-20} halohydrocarbyl, or C_{1-20} halocarbyl;
 R^5 is C_{1-20} hydrocarbylene, C_{1-20} halohydrocarbylene, or C_{1-20} halocarbylene; and
 m is 0 or 1.

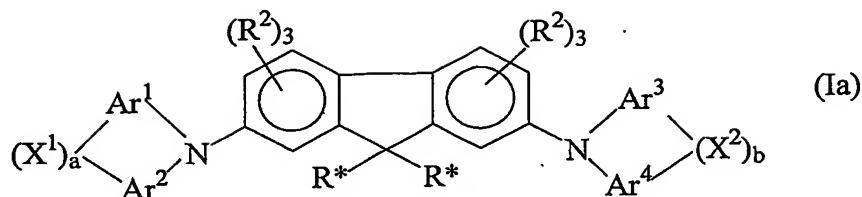
5. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R^1 is selected from the group consisting of: vinyl, C_{1-4} alkylacrylate, vinylphenyl, vinylphenoxy, maleimido, vinylbenzyl,
 15 vinylbenzyloxy, oxetanyl, 2-propynyl, trifluoroethenyl, 1-benzo-3,4-cyclobutane, and methyl-1-benzo-3,4-cyclobutane.

6. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R^2 independently each occurrence is hydrogen, C_{1-20} hydrocarbyl, C_{1-20} halohydrocarbyl, C_{1-20} halocarbyl, C_{1-20} hydrocarbyloxy, C_{1-20}
 20 hydrocarbylthio, C_{1-20} hydrocarbonyloxy, C_{1-20} hydrocarbyloxycarbonyl, C_{1-20} hydrocarbyl-carbonyloxy, or cyano.

7. A compound according to claim 6 wherein R^2 each occurrence is hydrogen.

- 25 8. A compound according to claim 1 wherein Ar^1 , Ar^2 , Ar^3 and Ar^4 are phenyl or phenylene, X^1 and X^2 are O or S, and a and b are 0 or 1.

9. An oligomer or polymer having one or more repeating groups of the formula:



wherein R^* is independently in each occurrence i) a C_{1-40} hydrocarbyl group, iii) a C_{1-40} hydrocarbyl group wherein one or more carbons are substituted by one or more heteroatoms selected from S, N, O, P, B or Si atoms, or iii) a halogenated derivative of i) or ii), with the proviso that in at least one occurrence, R^* is a divalent linking group formed by crosslinking of a crosslinkable group selected from i), ii) or iii) through which the repeating groups are joined;

R^2 is independently in each occurrence hydrogen, halogen, C_{1-20} hydrocarbyl, C_{1-20} hydrocarbyloxy, C_{1-20} thioether, C_{1-20} hydrocarbylcarbonyloxy, di(C_{1-20} hydrocarbyl)amino, or cyano;

Ar^1 , Ar^2 , Ar^3 and Ar^4 are independently in each occurrence C_{6-20} aromatic groups, optionally containing one or more S, N, O, P, B or Si heteroatoms, halo-, C_{1-20} hydrocarbyl-, di(C_{1-20} hydrocarbyl)amino-, C_{1-20} hydrocarbyloxy-, tri(C_{1-10} hydrocarbyl)silyl-, or tri(C_{1-10} hydrocarbyl)siloxy- substituted derivatives thereof, or divalent derivatives of the foregoing;

a and b independently in each occurrence are 0 or 1; and

X^1 and X^2 independently in each occurrence are a covalent bond, O, S, SO_2 , CH_2 , $C(R^3)_2$ or NR^3 , wherein R^3 is selected from the group consisting of C_{1-22} alkyl, C_{1-22} cycloalkyl, C_{6-24} aryl, and C_{7-24} aralkyl.

10. A composition comprising an oligomer or polymer according to claim 9.

11. A process for preparing oligomers or polymers comprising heating a composition according to claim 1 under reaction conditions sufficient to form an oligomer or polymer having one or more groups according to claim 9.

12. A composition according to claim 9 in the form of a film.

13. An electronic device comprising one or more layers of polymer films, at least one of which comprises a film according to claim 12.

14. An electronic device according to claim 13 which is an electroluminescent device.